IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently-Amended): A circuit, comprising:

an oscillator having a current source-sink connection;

a switch coupled to the current source-sink connection and configured to receive a synchronizing signal having an active state, and an inactive state, wherein the switch has an on state activated by the active state and deactivated by the inactive state; and

a current path coupled to the switch, wherein the current path is configured to pass a sink current when the on state is deactivated, and wherein the switch is configured to pass ~~the~~ a source current in a direction opposite the sink current when the on state is activated.

8. (Original): The circuit of claim 7, wherein the switch is coupled to the current source-sink connection using a capacitor.

9. (Original): The circuit of claim 7, wherein the oscillator is included in a pulse width modulator.

10. (Original): The circuit of claim 9, further comprising:
a self-oscillating, push-pull switching circuit coupled to the oscillator.

11. (Original): The circuit of claim 10, wherein the self-oscillating, push-pull switching circuit is a Royer-class converter.

12. (Original): The circuit of claim 10, further comprising:
at least one cold-cathode fluorescent lamp coupled to the self-oscillating, push-pull switching circuit.

13-25. (Canceled)